CHAPTER NO. 43

SENATE BILL NO. 991

By Williams, Dixon

Substituted for: House Bill No. 678

By Shaw, Harrison

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, relative to the practice of medicine and surgery.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

63-6-234. A physician serving as a U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Officer who is trained as a National Health Service Corps Ready Responder shall be authorized to practice medicine at federally qualified health centers while pursuing licensure as provided in this part under the following conditions:

- (1) The physician has first filed an application for licensure as provided in this part; and
- (2) The physician, prior to commencing practice, submits a written statement to the board that all of the physician's medical licenses, including the authority to practice in U.S. Public Health Service, are unencumbered by disciplinary actions, unresolved disciplinary complaints or unresolved medical malpractice lawsuits; and
- (3) The physician timely complies with all board rules governing the application process and immediately ceases practicing medicine until a license is subsequently granted should the initial licensure application be closed either for failure to provide timely required information or is denied by the board.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 10, 2003

JOHN S. WILDER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

> JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER OUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 23rd day of April 2003

Phil BREDESEN, GOVERNOR